

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

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R 201835Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8886

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3876

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DR, HA

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN RELATIONS WITH HAITI

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 3848: DAO MESSAGE DTG 151532Z SEPT 73

1. FON SEC GOMEZ SPOKE FEELINGLY OF HIS DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH HAITI. IN HIS VIEW THE GODR SHOULD ASSIST IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF HAITI AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO SO BASED ON THE THESIS THAT GREATER CONTENTMENT ON THE PART OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE SIGNIFIED LESS ENVY OF DOMINICAN PROSPERITY, ERGO DIMINISHED LIKELIHOOD OF A REPETITION OF SOME OF THE BLOODY EPISODES THAT HISTORICALLY THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE HAVE EXPERIENCED AT THE HANDS OF HAITI. I ASSURED HIM THAT THE US WOULD WELCOME AND TO THE EXTENT PRUDENT WOULD SUPPORT INITIATIVES THAT SOUGHT ENHANCED STABILITY AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON HISPANIOLA.

2. ADMIRAL JIMENEZ RECOUNTED APPROVINGLY THE EXCELLENT TREATMENT HIS TWO EMISSARIES HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM THE GOH (LODGED IN THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE OF AN EXCELLENT HOTEL, AN EXCELLENT CAR PLACED AT THEIR DISPOSITION). GOMEZ HOWEVER EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE GOH HAD NOT PURSUED THE GODR INITIATIVE TO ACHIEVE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON COMMERCE, PAYMENTS, AND TRANSPORT. HE EXPLAINED THAT LAST DECEMBER A DOMINICAN TEAM

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HAD MET WITH HAITIAN AUTHORITIES IN PORT AU PRINCE TO DISCUSS

DRAFTS OF THE THREE PROPOSED AGREEMENTS. HE CONTINUED THAT
DESPITE HAITIAN PROMISES TO RETURN TO THE SUBJECT SOME TWO WEEKS
LATER AND DESPITE HIS PRODDING OF FON MIN RAYMOND DURING THE
LAST OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY NO FURTHER MEETINGS HAVE OCCURRED.

3. COMMENT: THE TWO PARTIES CONCERNED HAVE CLEARLY THE
GREATER INTEREST IN DETERMINING THE NATURE OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP
AND I BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE PRUDENT FOR THE US
TO EMBARK UPON A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS UNDER OUR
LEADERSHIP AND AUSPICES. NEVERTHELESS, I DO THINK THAT WE SHOULD
BE ALERT TO OPPORTUNITIES WHERE WE CAN APPROPRIATELY NUDGE EACH
SIDE TOWARD IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING. GIVEN
GOMEZ' RATHER STATESMAN-LIKE APPROACH, I WOULD ANTICIPATE
LITTLE DIFFICULTY AT THIS END IN A DISCREET AND TIMELY PROD.
WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE' AND DEPT'S VIEWS.
HURWITCH

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